



# NEWS RELEASE

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## **DORR ANNOUNCES APPOINTMENT OF GEORGE PHILLIPS AS STATE DIRECTOR FOR MISSISSIPPI**

WASHINGTON, May 5, 2008 – Agriculture Under Secretary for Rural Development Thomas C. Dorr today announced the appointment of George Landon Phillips as the Mississippi State Director for USDA Rural Development.

“Mr. Phillips brings a wealth of understanding and talent to the challenges and opportunities awaiting Mississippi’s rural residents and communities,” said Dorr. “I am confident that he will do a superb job in leading our USDA Rural Development efforts in Mississippi.”

A resident of Sumrall, Mississippi, Phillips served as a United States Attorney for more than a decade and as Special Counsel to Mississippi Senator Thad Cochran for six years. He earned the distinction of being one of only two U.S. Attorneys to have served two terms on the U.S. Attorney General’s Advisory Committee. Phillips received his Bachelor of Science in philosophy at the University of Southern Mississippi before earning his law degree at the University of Mississippi Law School.

USDA Rural Development’s mission is to increase economic opportunity and improve the quality of life for rural residents. Rural Development has invested more than \$91 billion since 2001 for equity and technical assistance to finance and foster growth in homeownership, business development, and critical community and technology infrastructure. More than 1.7 million jobs have been created or saved through these investments. Further information on rural programs is available at a local USDA Rural Development office or by visiting USDA’s website at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>.

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